

OVER HERE

Most letters received during January were about the Yultide, so this issue will look more like a post-Christmas number, but on February 14th, St. Valentine's Day, is Ash Wednesday which opens the Lenten and Paschal season. And lo! Easter will be here April 1st. Time sure flies.

I wish space permitted to reprint two mimeographed Christmas letters sent by James Griffith (Int. Hse.), and by John Morgan, both with the CPS. Jimmy is located at the Conn. State Hospital in Middletown, Conn., while John is at the Philadelphia State Hospital. Few people realize the great work CO's are doing, underpaid and unsung, quietly accomplish their tasks. John Morgan, who was formerly an instructor at the Quaker College Pendel Hill, and who is an artist of many phases, as well as one of the few artists in the American style of stained-glass arts, also submits himself as a "guinea pig" for various tests of yellow jaundice and effects of vitamin diets. Aside caring for the patients and also teaching them weaving. John was always active in various "brotherhood promotion" organizations, co-ops and naturally, in all Quaker affairs. The Quakers seem to be the only steadfast people who see the futility of war and own the true Christian charitability. More power to them. . . . S-Sgt. Louis Denov (NWUS), is presently at Chanute Field doing maintenance work. His wife also arrived to make home near her hubby. . . . Mordy Arnold is making rapid progress. He was elevated to Staff Sergeant. Keep it up, Leatherneck! . . . Lt. Wm. Scotty Bain was married "very quietly and practically unattended" on December 16th in Chicago. Our best wishes, Scotty. But you sure worked fast! . . . Lt. Chas. Rudauskas got another furlough. For several years he could get none, now, it is his second in a short interval. They probably plan to give him a sea voyage. . . . Chaplain Rodney Shaw, who is at Camp Maxey, Texas, finds the German he studied in his college days coming in handy, for in their camp they have a group of German war prisoners. . . . Our G-I Poet, Pvt. Gene Wierbach, is now in Camp Shelby. . . . Vytautas Ramanauskas just finished the Naval Intelligence School in Washington, D. C., and was transferred to Camp Parks, Calif. Valio Vytautail! Ir geriausio pasisekimo. . . . Beg your pardon. In last month's issue, accidentally, one line was omitted. It is about Seymour Meyerson (Int. Hse.), we were talking. He received his lieutenantcy at Ft. Monmouth, N. J., and was assigned to a permanent station with the engineering outfit in Chicago and in his home neighborhood.

OVER THERE

"What a man!" Jimmy Carroll (LYS), who, while in the USA was a corporal, turned in his stripes to become a plain G-I so that they would send him across. He finally got his wish, and out there, from private they elevated him to a Staff Sergeant! That's the fighting Irish with Lithuanian determination. Jimmy, who was with the 3rd Army, the one that repulsed the German break-through, was recently wounded and was flown to England (his first airplane ride) for hospitalization. He assures us that it is nothing serious and will soon be back with his outfit. Luck be with you, pal. . . . Willie Stuersel (SOE), was also promoted to the rank of a Master Sergeant. Congrats! Willie is now in Luxembourg. . . . First word was received from Pfc. Joe Simbal (LYS), written soon after he became a "Shellback," an initiation ceremony upon crossing the equator. He was impressed by "the gorgeous sunsets and flying fish like silver arrows." Poetic. . . . From Pukekohe, New Zealand, where Kazy and Woody Skinner were stationed in pre-Guadalcanal days, Miss Val Roulston, in whose home Kazy and friends visited while on leave, writes: "Pukekohe is not the same since the Americans left the island." She wrote that with regrets. . . . Which reminds me, "youse guys and y'all" when not chasing Jerries, Nipps or women, how about observing the folk ways and customs of the people you are among, and sending us the information? You know, this is our hobby, and it will be of interest to our readers. . . . My cousin, Capt. N. F. Schwartz, a doctor at the 189th General Hospital, had no time even to shop for Christmas cards, so the Germans unwillingly provided him some. They retreated in such a hurry that they left their supply behind, and one of these he sent me and I sure was thrilled to get it. . . . Cpl. Chas. Jennings (SOE), who seems to be having a hard time to adjust himself to Burma's weather, anticipates a furlough. We hope you get it. . . . To Albinas Reneckis: "Lietuviai esame mes gime—Lietuviai turime ir but." . . . An item about Fairhope's hero, Capt. Dave Dougherty: "Capt. Dougherty, wise in the ways of fighters from Rabaul to Truk, swerved the formation of his whole squadron, drove off enemy fighters, and led a crippled ship of a rival squadron to a place where it could be sure of safety. Dave stuck with the ship until the crew bailed out, then he dropped life rafts and provisions and notified rescue facilities of their position. The Capt. was in the air 17 hours. This incident took place near Borneo. Dave, who is only 27 years old, has been since promoted to Major. Hurrah for Dave and for Fairhope! . . . Pvt. Al Spear (LYS), attended a Swedish folk dance group on the island of Oahu (Hawaii). Got to do the Schottische and the Fjainaspolska, but thinks that the LYS Lithuanians outshine the Swedes when it comes to doing Swedish dancing. Blow me down! He complains that he tires easily while dancing and that he has grown so fat that he can no more see his feet when standing and looking down. Some lard!

VILTIS

(HOPE)

FAIRHOPE - - - ALABAMA

CIVVIE REPORTERS
Int. Hse. _____ Mrs. Boand & Mrs. Chen
LYS _____ Lillian Cinskas
NWUH _____ Celia Glebutowska
SOE _____ Edna Rockwell

THIS 'N' THAT

CONDOLENCE

All of us send our deepest sympathy to Sarah Gertrude Knott, National Folk Dance Instructor, upon the tragic death of her brother-in-law, Mr. Ernest Ransdell, three days before Christmas. The Ransdells raised Miss Knott and her sister, Gladys, when they were orphaned in their childhood. They always held a family reunion at each Christmas and planned the same for this year, when an automobile accident killed Mr. Ransdell. Interment took place in their native Kentucky home.

RETURNING VETS

Heroes we shall never forget are also the lads who are now being discharged. Our deepest appreciation for your part is undiminished. Be ye thrice welcome.
Vytautas Tarutis (USA)
Irv Lev (USA)
Felix Thomas (USCG)
Hugh Jones (USA)
Jimmy Lowell (USA)
Woodward Skinner (USMC)
Robert Curtis (USA)
Robert Clark (USA)
Robert Koen (USA)
Robert Mauck (USA)
Robert Calhoun (CPS)
(We still have some Roberts left on our active list.)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Minnie Mae Reaves _____18
Toby Posey _____3
Miss Harriet Vittum _____14
Sue Arnold Thomas _____17
Lester M. Barder _____20
Eugene R. Grossman _____23
Casimir Zurawski _____22
To me, too _____26
Jimmy Rockwell _____27
Mrs. L. K. Riggs _____27
Let's get more dates!

PATRONS

Pvt. Bernie Klumpp, Fairhope; M. J. Pickering, Philadelphia; Mr. and Mrs. Rosenbloom, Chicago; Jane Matecunas, Chicago; Mrs. Ned Dougherty, Fairhope; Prof. F. M. Goodhue, Fairhope; Dr. Wm. E. Zeuch, Mobile; Miss Lenore Jones, Mobile. (To be continued).

NOOK OF THOUGHTS

EXTERMINATION OF BALTS

February 16th will be Lithuania's Independence Day. At present she and her Baltic sister republics face extermination.

Since the time of Peter the Great, Russian expansionists, determined to carry Russian frontiers to the Baltic shores. Finnish territory was wrested away, where St. Petersburg (Leningrad), as a window to the Baltic is built. Under Catherine the Great, imperialistic aggression was intensified. Baltic territory was acquired, and later Tsars instituted a period of Russification by force. Lithuanian as a printed language was prohibited, Catholicism curtailed and proselytation of the populace encouraged. Mass deportation to Siberia, property confiscation, execution, massacres, were common occurrences. In 1904 the Lithuanians won their first round by regaining the right of her written language; in 1918, on February 16th, she completely overthrew the foreign yoke and enjoyed freedom for a short lived period—23 years.

But the dream of Russian imperialistic expansion did not abate with the present Communist regime; it exhilarated instead. The same cruel Tsarist methods are intensified and elaborated. A reign of terror now prevails in the Baltic countries. Towns in Lithuania are being depopulated through wholesale slaughter and deportation by the Russian "liberators." Vilkauskis, Utenai, Siauliai, Kursenai, Leliunai, Daugiai and others are already void of Lithuanians. Alien communist rulers are installed. Russians are being settled on depopulated and confiscated property, where the owners have either been murdered or driven afoot to distant parts of Russia. None who might vote in a future 'Plebiscite' for an independent Lithuania are left, and the new colonizers will vote "in majority" for annexation to the Soviets. Any one who has belonged to any patriotic organization is condemned to death, including Catholic Bishops and Priests, like Bishops Brizgys, Skvircas, Matulionis and Mironas. Sentence has been passed on Antanas Garmus, chairman of the Lithuanian Red Cross, because he condemned Soviet terror methods, and all of his family will share the same fate.

As the Russians fought off the Germans, the Lithuanians (those not summarily shot) received colored cards. Red for military service in the Red Army; green for labor service; white, deportation.

There is nothing we can do. Russia is our ally, and must be appeased, even if it does mean extermination of the Balts and independence seeking Poles. Yes, we are fighting for Four Freedoms, providing we are foolish enough to believe in such a thing. Nor must we raise our voice against atrocities if they are perpetrated by Russians. That is "treason!"

The Balts are an agricultural people, who, above every thing else, love their farms. They want no Fascist or Communist protection. During their 23 years of independence they demonstrated to the world that they can get along mighty well.

Yes, history repeats itself. In this

case it repeats itself very soon, while we still have not even won the battle for which we sacrifice our men. While the umbrella is lacking, Hitler is not the

man nor Munich the locale, but the story is the same. The results are obvious. God grant I may be wrong.
V. F. Beliajus.

AND THOSE YOU LEFT BEHIND

Chicago—Irv Lev is spending a few months in San Antonio, Texas, and Arizona where his mother is to remain for several years to regain her health. Edwin Droszcz is staying at Irv's home, while his sister, Olga, and husband moved to a farm near Crown Point, Ind. . . . Robert Clark also moved to his own apartment. . . . Mrs. Alfred Boand has spent the last few months in Fulton, Mo., to care for her aged in-laws who have been of low health lately. . . . Mrs. Peter Dauzvardis, wife of Lithuanian consul, is holding a prominent position in the Red Cross field, and is one of the main lecturers who is kept on the go to fill the many requests for her service, and is well received everywhere. She is also Lithuanian Chairman of the Community and War Fund. Her two cute little sons are no more cute nor little but tall and handsome. Peter, Jr., 17, is 5 feet 10, a student at the Illinois Tech where he is studying chemical engineering and also excels as a swimmer. 14-year-old Fabian is 5 feet 4, and busy in scout work. He has acquired so many merit badges that he has no room for more on his sleeves. The Dauzvardis family have always been loyal friends of LYS and we sure are happy to hear news from them. . . . Hugh Jones, who left Edward Hines Veterans Hospital last October, is coming along well and doing war work. It was Hugh who got the bright idea for these service letters which we now all enjoy (I hope). . . . Eugene Ten Brink, friend of many Viltis readers, will soon graduate as minister of the Dutch Reformed Church from the New Brunswick, N. J. Seminary, and will leave for China as soon as permissible to participate in the reconstruction work. He got married last summer to a Detroit lass. Gene is a native of Holland, Mich. He sends his regards to Kazy, the Roses, the Sarets and to all. . . . Nora Skamarak, who was an LYS'r for many years during its early years, became Mrs. Stephen Baran on December 30th, and a grand feast followed at the Lithuanian Auditorium. Cpl. Baran is an Aleutian Vet. . . . Congrats are extended to Cpl. and Mrs. Clifford Pazik (She, Priscilla Kempiski, LYS), on the safe delivery by the stork of 7 pound, 11 ounce Theresa Ann, on December 19th. Many more, but boys next time. . . . We hear that Josie Kasmauskas is also expecting the stork this April. Easy delivery, old gal! . . . Lil Cinskas is doing plenty entertaining of late in USO centers and once also at the Marine Hospital. . . . The Noble family of Park House fame, moved to Cleveland where Jim Noble is taking over the directorship of the regional branch of the Conference of Jews and Christians, and he is the very person for such a job. . . . Lt. and Mrs. Alexander Childs (She, Wenetta Grybas), are proud parents of Carol Irene, born in Chicago on December 28th. Congrats! This sure will be of interest to many LYS'rs. . . . Vytautas Tarutis, tall, dark and handsome and with a resonant baritone that charmed the Chicago Lith. stage, was honorably discharged from the army after three months of hospitalization at Ft. Benning, Ga. Of the 23 months of service, 13 were spent in South Africa, Persia and India. Vyts reopened his law office in the Lith. Auditorium building. Welcome home! . . . In the annual Twelfth Night festival of Northwestern, petite Florence Glebutowska and Stanley West were chosen as queen and king for the year. But it seems that Flo will have to take over the regency, as Stan was inducted that very week. Long live the queen. . . . Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Creanza are the proud parents of Carol Ann. Mr. Creanza is teacher of French at the YMCA College and also trains yearly a group of dancers who do the French folk dances annually at the Folk Festival. Our Al Spear, when he was a student at the college, was one of the "French" dancers. Now he is growing fat in Oahu. . . . Josephine Kasmauskas gave birth a month and a half prematurely to an incubator baby of 3 lbs. and 14 oz., on Jan. 8th, named Gail Joyce. Both doing well. Did you notice? This issue is full of babies! Congrats to all.

FAIRHOPE

Miss Iris Meinema took over the office of executive secretary of the Red Cross. Miss Meinema succeeds Miss Tomlinson under whose able guidance she was well familiarized with this type of work. Miss Meinema also received special training in Montgomery for the Home Service Corps. Aside above qualifications, Iris is just the person for this type of work due to her sympathetic understanding, hospitable nature and kind heart. Their beautiful Mobaila-Creole style home on Bayview Avenue, overlooking the bay, was a royal haven to many service men who visited Fairhope. Among them even our Chicago friends the Lt. Brothers John and Bill Soong and Hugh Jones. The Meinemas are natives of Chicago where they lived in the Beverly Hills section. Iris was an Organic teacher who was well loved by all her pupils. Good luck, Iris. . . . Grace Arnold became the wife of Cpl. Robert King in a home ceremony on January 2nd. Rev. W. H. Evans, of the Baptist church, officiated. Her sister, Mary Emma, was maid of honor and Lt. Marney Lowell was best man, while Mrs. Riggs provided the music. Our best wishes to the King and his Queen and may their royal house be increased by many little princesses. . . . During the Yuletide, Fairhope had a great many visitors and furloughers and many were truly happy. F-O Billy Keeble and his wife, Pvt. Bernie Klumpp were among the men in uniform and our maidens fair from the Georgia College for Women, Peggy Wood, Roberta Nye, Carolyn Lester, Kirsten Egebeck-Petersen, came down to entertain the men. But "poh Peggy" developed a shiner on her face. By the way, Peggy made the "Dean's List", high grades in everything. She's smart, I betcha! . . . Dan McCants joined the navy and plans to be trained as an air-crewman. Dan hopes to return after induction to graduate. Good luck, Danny boy! . . . Furloughing lads played the Organic Cardi-